

Citations for Honorary Degrees Given by Columbia University

The texts of citations used by Dr. John A. Kroun, vice president and provost of Columbia University, in presenting the candidates for honorary degrees, and by President Grayson Kirk in conferring the honorary degrees at the Columbia University annual commencement exercises yesterday follow:

Doctor of Science

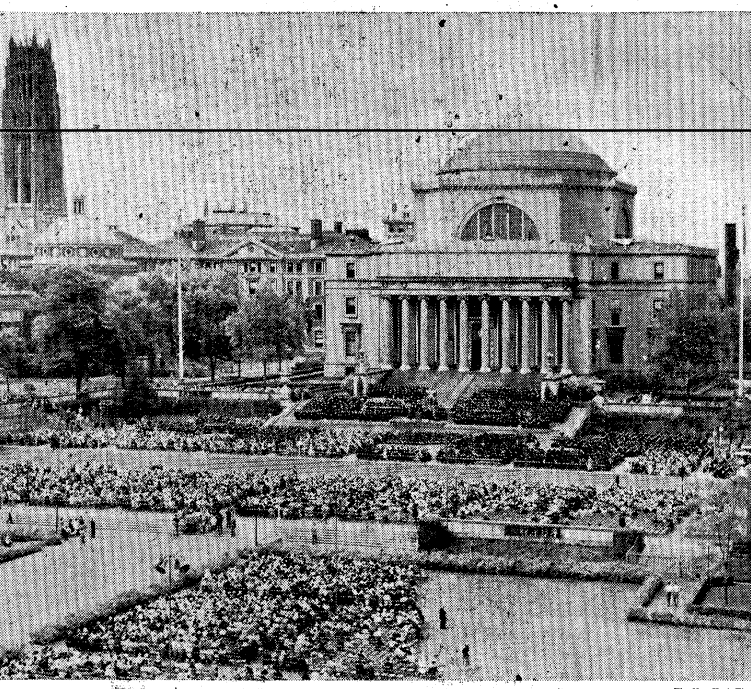
Felix Andries Vening-Meinesz—By DR. KROUT: Felix Andries Vening-Meinesz is presented for the degree of Doctor of Science. From the Netherlands, from historical Utrecht, he has come this noted investigator of fundamental geophysical science. He is a superb representative of the intellectual leadership provided by the universities of the Netherlands. He has crossed the seas to come to us now, but more often he has traveled far below the surface of the waves, for this marine has been his important laboratory. His work, the measurement of the variation of the value of gravity, has made possible the accurate calculation of the shape of the earth. His findings are among the most important knowledge of the earth disclosed in our time. Probably more miles than any other man, naval or civilian, he has traveled fathoms deep beneath the seven seas. He is a Jules Verne come to life. Often a visitor at our Lamont Observatory, where he has inspired extended studies in gravity research, he is to Columbia geologists almost their patron saint. Great life heart as in stature, his was the hidden heroism which mended shattered lives of children he rescued and sheltered from wartime occupation horrors. He was the recipient in 1945 of the Penrose Medal, highest American geological honor. Scholars, in truth, look up to him. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Felix Andries Vening-Meinesz: You have answered questions which have eluded scientists before you. You have been a pioneer of the dark depths, casting new light of age-old problems. Yours has been, with dignity, the life of scientific adventure. You have, also, other, younger men, and their work in the interest of all scholarship. You honor us as you join today Columbia's community of scholars.

Doctor of Letters

Dino Bigongiari—By DR. KROUT: Dino Bigongiari is presented for the degree of Doctor of Letters. He is Professor Emeritus of Italian, a distinguished man of letters, a beloved teacher, a modest and an eminent man, for more than five decades, of the Morningside community of scholars. Son of the ancient and brave city of Lucca in his native Tuscany, he is the vivid heir of a culture heritage. He was trained in Columbia College at the turn of the century. As a scholar, he is pre-eminent in medieval learning, especially in the depth of his understanding of the thought of Thomas Aquinas and his scholastic philosophy. He is known also to his colleagues of Europe and America as one of the best friends among them all in knowledge and interpretation of Dante. Several generations of Latin students in Columbia knew him, as well as one who made the beauties of classic language glow for them. Honored often by governments and men for his gifts of learning, he has been honored more by the affection and respect of those who knew his classroom. Today, sir, it is the privilege of his alma mater to record her abiding gratitude. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Dino Bigongiari: On behalf of the university you have served so long and so well; on behalf of the students to whom you have been revered friend and wise philosopher; on behalf of scholarship men everywhere, for you have adorned their noble profession, I delight to bring to you our accolade of the scholar.

Doctor of Sacred Theology

David de Sola Pool—By Dr. KROUT: David de Sola Pool is presented for the degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology. A distinguished churchman of our day, he was born in London. With highest honors he achieved the doctorate of philosophy at Heidelberg after earlier training at the Universities of London and Berlin. For almost a half-century, ever young in thought, always old in wisdom, he has presided over the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue congregation, Shearith Israel, our venerable neighbor which was three hundred years old as Columbia closed its second century a few months ago. His is the ministry once graced by Gershom Mendes Seixas, a name large in Columbia's early annals. In a city whose changes in fifty years have been more than startling, complacency has yet to lull Rabbi Pool. In his gentle but resolute mind, concern has ruled, but never dismay; compassion, never condemnation; hope, not the doctrine of gloom. A revered leader of the Jewish faith, his works and his beneficent influence have reached far beyond his numerous flock. From his pulpit the Word has lived anew, that a modern and torn earth might heed and profit. A frequent and welcome visitor to Morningside, I commend him to you. Sir, as one whose message exalts us all. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: David de Sola Pool: This university, with all New York and our national community, has been blessed by your life. We welcome you today as man of God, as minister to America's oldest Jewish com-



COMMENCEMENT AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY: View during exercises yesterday in front of Low Memorial Library

as Langdell Professor of Law, then as Story Professor. He has served our government importantly, as he has the American Bar Association, the American Political Science Association, and the Academy of Political Science. His works on the federal authority with reference to powers of the states will be enduring guideposts. Emeritus at Morningside, you were a spark unquenchable at Suffolk University. Men of the law no longer young recall him as an inspiration of their youth. Teaching colleagues who have pointed ways but not barred, he is a genial and well-loved friend. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Thomas Reed Powell: Returning to the wish for you of continued years of usefulness.

William Pearson Tolley—By DR. KROUT: William Pearson Tolley is presented for the degree of Doctor of Laws. In young manhood an ordained minister of the Methodist Church, he was schooled first at the important university he now directs with high distinction as chancellor. With pride we note he studied for the advanced degrees on Morningside, followed, his was a broad pedagogical experience, preparing to whom you have been revered friend and wise philosopher; on behalf of scholarship men everywhere, for you have adorned their noble profession, I delight to bring to you our accolade of the scholar.

William John Wallin—By DR. KROUT: William John Wallin is presented for the degree of Doctor of Laws. Native of our community of Yorkers, he was schooled as bachelor at New York University, then for the master's degree at Columbia. Servant first of his Yorkers neighbors as city attorney, he was soon chosen their Mayor. He has since been the servant of all the people of our state, especially of the young, for his contributions to the cause of higher education have been great. Since 1920 he has been of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, for several years as

selfless service. Seeking no encomium, you have earned the admiration of us all. Columbia, which happily shared in your preparation for a rich career, delights now to bestow upon you an honor richly merited. Frank Whittemore Abrams—By DR. KROUT: Frank Whittemore Abrams is presented for the degree of Doctor of Laws. He was trained at Syracuse University in the exacting discipline of the civil engineer. Without delay he found his niche as employee, then as executive, in a great and basic industry. It was a niche that ever widened for industry, he quickly found, is of men and not machines. In this discovery, starting to some that not distant era, he found the key to incalculable service, a boon to industry and to our nation's health. The engineer became the humanist. The humanist became the resolute advocate of broadened educational opportunity for all who would learn. His was a pioneering vision of the responsibility of large business for support of higher education, and his perhaps the first important statement of an industrial leader to point the way. He was, Mr. President, a principal architect of the Council for Financial Aid to Education. Great foundations in support of learning have found in him an unending worker. Since retirement as chairman of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey from his home on his native Long Island, he drives forward still in the quest of ever greater opportunity for our youth. Here, sir, is a man to whom all universities owe homage. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Frank Whittemore Abrams: Columbia proffers her thanks today. By inspiring example, by purposeful effort, by abilities beyond those of all but a few men, you have opened the way to countless young Americans; and the work you carry on so well has only just begun. The decades ahead will be bright, and our country more secure, because you have believed not only in machines, but in men.

Edward Roland Noel Harriman—By DR. KROUT: Edward Roland Noel Harriman is presented for the degree of Doctor of Laws. He is an American whose interest in his fellow Americans has long superseded his broad interests in the commerce of our nation. Born of a noted New York family, studying at Groton and Yale, a leader in finance, in transportation, in industry, soon he found more than these as his responsibilities in a society where men are still visited by suffering and quick calamity and where the young still struggle for their opportunity America affords. As president of the Boys' Club of New York, and as chairman of the American National Red Cross, his deep feeling for those who need a helping hand has been translated into able and forceful action. He has helped to strengthen the fibers of a city and a nation. His is a career, still in the fullness of his power for good, which commands the respect and merits the gratitude of men whose measurement of success is the dignity and the well-being of man. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Edward Roland Noel Harriman: Humanitarian, benefactor of fellow citizens, captain of industry, brother of the distinguished governor of our state, friend of this university, friend of the American people, you, sir, are the gratitude of Columbia, the Doctors of Law.

Dr. KROUT: Frederick Edward Hagler is presented for the degree of Doctor of Laws. A native of England, born in the ancient maritime county of Essex, he has long been a staunch and vigorous citizen of his adopted country. His achievements in commerce, and they have been great, have enabled him in the highest sense to serve the whole community. The leaders of two Americas know him for his unremitting efforts to advance the friendship of the peoples of our hemisphere. Unobtrusively, but always effectively, he has helped to bridge the Atlantic in the cause of Anglo-American understanding. As churchman, in the service of old Trinity, and as public spirited New Yorker, he has helped in many notable projects to create in our city a more beautiful life. He distinguished leadership on behalf of Columbia, Mr. President, as chairman of the University's Bicentennial Birthday Fund, was of these projects one for which we of Morningside shall be forever grateful. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Frederick Edward Hagler: In a lifetime of noble effort to aid your fellow man, you have richly earned our deep respect and affection. With warm satisfaction and with humble thanks, Columbia bestows upon you its heartfelt blessing and the University's Doctorate of Laws.

Allen Welsh Dulles—By DR. KROUT: Allen Welsh Dulles is presented for the degree of Doctor of Laws. He has been called to posts of high responsibility and trust in his extraordinary service to our nation. He is a citizen whom his fellow Americans may never fully appreciate, because they may never know the full extent of his service. His knowledge of the world and his relation to it is exhaustive, perhaps unique. After training at Princeton and brief teaching in India, his early diplomatic assignments were of moment for one of his years. He served in Paris with the American Commission to negotiate the Peace in 1918. Increasingly responsible missions followed and were carried out. Able he engaged in the private practice of law in New York in the middle years. The Office of Strategic Service called him during World War II. In 1951, responding to summons for public spirited New Yorker, he him admirably, he became deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency. He headed that vitally important organization since 1953. An American of unflinching integrity and courage, he recognizes duty and, in the high tradition, heeds its call. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Allen Welsh Dulles: Yours is a contribution to the nation's being for which we are grateful. With high regard for the individual, with unceasing vigilance and with an exalted sense of dedication to the security of our way of life, you and your resolute aides have earned the true appreciation of us all.

Margaret Chase Smith—By DR. KROUT: Margaret Chase Smith is presented for the degree of Doctor of Laws, Columbia honors this gracious lady for many reasons. She pioneers in the nation's capital as the first woman senator from her native state of Maine; indeed, the first of an Eastern state. A distinguished member since 1949 of the "most exclusive gentlemen's club in the world," Senator Smith reaffirms the growing realization, wisely recognized by her stature and performance, rather than sex, provide the reasonable standards for political selection. Chosen first in 1940 to represent the Second Maine District in the Seventy-sixth Congress, she gained quickly the respect of her colleagues of the forty-eight states. Elections in Maine have bothered her little since. In days that are active, she thinks less of elections than of people. The women of our nation—happily a populous group—consider Senator Smith as their Senator-at-large, but her record shows that she discriminates not in their favor, opposing always unfair privilege. Scholarship is the word for her utterances, moderation and integrity of the individual her philosophy, relentless industry her trait. Fear she does not know as men have learned who thunder empty phrased. She merits well, Sir, the salute of this university. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Margaret Chase Smith: With fine hand and clear mind, you are writing your chapter of history. You represent more than the people of Maine in our halls of state. You represent those Americans who, seeing well the present danger, will meet it without sacrifice of the precious principles which are our common heritage. Columbia has you as an outstanding citizen.

Howard Alexander Smith—By DR. KROUT: Howard Alexander Smith is presented for the degree of Doctor of Laws. Columbia shares Senator Smith with Princeton, for he trod these very steps in the early years of the century as a youthful student of law. Princeton had prepared him in the liberal arts. A lawyer, a man of the people, a master of the science of politics and government, he varied career has found him always busy, ever generous, constructive worker and in philosophy, never dismayed by foreboding events. The Rocky Mountain region was for years his home. To join Herbert Hoover's United States Food Administration he returned to the East. The years that followed were devoted largely to relief of human suffering in Europe. But return to his beloved Princeton was inevitable, and his years as lecturer on international affairs and as an official of his alma mater were fruitful indeed. Today, as for more than a decade, he represents our neighbor state in the United States Senate. He does so with unchallenged integrity, with eloquence and with wisdom born of long experience. BY PRESIDENT KIRK: Howard Alexander Smith: That our framework of national government, so carefully and wisely formulated by our forefathers, should have endured to become ever stronger is due not alone to the sagacity of the founders. That men of complete devotion to our heritage so often are called by the electorate to high councils in government is defense sufficient against the willful individuals who endeavor to do us and our institutions harm. You have been a man of devotion. Yours is a career in the best tradition of our legal profession and American politics. This university, which has shared in your training delights today to testify to the success of your service.

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William John Wallin — By DR

As president of the Boys' Club

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During exercises yesterday in front of Low Memorial Library



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